

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 01428 191032Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CPR-01 /034 W  
-----107588 200500Z /13-12

R 190905Z OCT 77  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8640

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 1428

E.O. 11652 GDS  
TAGS: PDIP, LA, US  
SUBJECT: U.S. CHRISTMAS CARDS AND NATIONAL DAY MESSAGE TO LPDR  
LEADERS

REF: (A) VIENTIANE 1017, (B) (76) VIENTIANE 2297,

1. RECOMMEND THAT IF PAST PRACTICE CONTINUES THIS YEAR THE PRESIDENT'S CHRISTMAS CARDS BE ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT SOUPHANOUVONG, CHIEF OF STATE AND TO PRIME MINISTER KAYSONE PHOMVIHANE, CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT. ALSO RECOMMEND THAT THE SECRETARY'S CARD BE SENT TO PHOUNE SIPRASEUTH, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THAT THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S CARD BE SENT TO KHAMPHAY BOUPHA, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHO RANKS NEXT AFTER PHOUNE.

2. RECOMMEND THAT FOR LAO NATIONAL DAY, DECEMBER 2, THE PRESIDENT SEND A CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT SOUPHANOUVONG AND THAT THE SECRETARY SEND A MESSAGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER PHOUNE SIPRASEUTH. SOUPHANOUVONG SENT MESSAGE PRESIDENT CARTER AND PHOUNE SENT ONE TO SECRETARY VANCE ON JULY 4. DO NOT REPEAT NOT RECOMMEND THAT PRESIDENT SEND MESSAGE TO PRIME MINISTER KAYSONE SINCE KAYSONE DID NOT SEND ONE TO U.S. PRESIDENT FOR U.S. NATIONAL DAY, 1976 OR 1977 AND LPDR PRACTICE IS THAT SOUPHANOUVONG HANDLES SUCH GREETINGS WITH NON-COMMUNIST HEADS OF STATE.

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3. RECOMMEND THAT THE TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S AND SECRETARY'S MESSAGES REFLECT CORRECT RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES AS DID LAO MESSAGES ON OUR NATIONAL DAY (REF A). SUGGEST MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT TO SOUPHANOUVONG READ AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT: ON THE OCCASION OF THE NATIONAL DAY OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC I HAVE THE HONOR TO CONVEY TO

YOUR EXCELLENCY MY SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS AND THE BEST WISHES OF  
THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE HAPPINESS AND PROSPERITY  
OF THE LAO PEOPLE.  
SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER. END TEXT.

4. RECOMMEND THAT SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER  
AND FOREIGN MINISTER PHOUNE SIPRASEUTH READ AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT: ON THE OCCASION OF THE NATIONAL DAY OF THE LAO  
PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, I HAVE THE HONOR TO ADDRESS TO YOU  
MY CONGRATULATIONS AND SINCERE BEST WISHES FOR SUCCESS AND  
PROSPERITY. IT HOPE THAT THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES  
WILL DEVELOP IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WISHES OUR TWO PEPLES.  
SINCERELY, CYRUS VANCE. END TEXT.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** PDIP, PPDC, LA, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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